United Nations A/53/215

General Assembly

Distr.: General
6 August 1998
English
Original: French

**Fifty-third session**
Item 113 of the provisional agenda*
**Human rights questions**

# Letter dated 3 August 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the attached copies, in English and French, of a statement issued on 31 July by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the recent developments in Myanmar.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Ernst **Sucharipa**
Permanent Representative of Austria
to the United Nations

* A/53/150.

98-23069 (E) 100898 100898

# Annex

[Original: English and French]

## Statement by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the recent developments in Myanmar

The European Union strongly deplores the actions of the authorities of Myanmar to hinder the free movement of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. Furthermore, the European Union condemns the decision of the authorities of Myanmar to force her to return to Yangon after she had spent six days in her car in protest against the authorities of Myanmar, which deprived her of the possibility to take part in a meeting with members of the National League for Democracy. The European Union considers this to be an unacceptable violation of her rights of free movement and association. Furthermore, this decision has only increased the isolation of the Government and will have further negative repercussions on the international reputation of the authorities in Yangon.

The European Union remains concerned about the health and safety of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

The European Union calls upon the authorities in Myanmar to allow Daw Aung San Suu Kyi free movement and expresses its hope that the Government of Myanmar will urgently take all necessary steps to start a meaningful dialogue between the Government and the opposition, in particular the National League for Democracy and representatives of ethnic minorities. As a first step, Parliament should be convened as soon as possible. Meanwhile international pressure on Myanmar should be maintained.

The Central and Eastern European countries and Cyprus associated with the European Union and the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, align themselves with this statement.

**UNITED NATIONS**

# A S

**General Assembly**
**Security Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

A/53/216
S/1998/724
6 August 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-third session
Items 20 (c) and 45 of
the provisional agenda*
STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: EMERGENCY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR PEACE, NORMALCY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF WAR-STRICKEN AFGHANISTAN
THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 6 August 1998 from the representatives of the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement on the outcome of the Russian-Uzbek talks held in Tashkent on 4 August 1998 regarding the situation in Afghanistan.

We should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the fifty-third session of the General Assembly, under items 20 (c) and 45 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yuriy FEDOTOV
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of
the Russian Federation to
the United Nations

(Signed) Alisher VOHIDOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Uzbekistan
to the United Nations

---

* A/53/150.

ANNEX

Statement on the outcome of the Russian-Uzbek talks held in Tashkent on 4 August 1998

On 4 August 1998, Russian-Uzbek talks were held in Tashkent with the participation of General A. Kvashnin, First Deputy Minister for Defence, Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, Mr. B. Pastukhov, First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, and officials from other ministries concerned.

On the Uzbek side, Mr. K. Tursunov, Minister for Defence, Mr. A. Kamilov, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and officials from the relevant ministries took part in the talks.

A wide-ranging exchange of views was held in a spirit of openness, as is traditional, and of mutual concern for the strengthening of peace and stability in the Central Asian region, concerning the worsening situation in northern Afghanistan, where the Taliban movement, with massive support from outside, has unleashed a new offensive in an attempt to resolve the Afghan problem by force of arms.

All the efforts undertaken by the international community, under the auspices of the United Nations, to achieve a political settlement in Afghanistan, may be brought to naught. The determination of the Afghan people to preserve national integrity and harmony and resolve the country's internal problems by peaceful means has been openly disregarded.

The Russian Federation and Uzbekistan are deeply concerned about the escalation of bloodshed on Afghan soil. The Taliban movement must stop military actions immediately.

In the belief that only the Afghans themselves can determine the fate of their homeland, and, without external interference, put an end to the civil war which has lasted for so many years, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan appeal to all the forces involved in the armed conflict to find peaceful ways of settling all the problems and disagreements.

The Russian and Uzbek representatives are prepared to meet representatives of the opposing Afghan forces immediately in order to prevent a further escalation of military actions in northern Afghanistan and promote the early defusing of the Afghan crisis.

As a result of the exchange of views on the current situation in Afghanistan, which may lead to a direct threat to the national interests and security of the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan, and also other Central Asian States of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the parties reserve the right to take all necessary measures to strengthen the security of their external borders in accordance with the Treaty on Collective Security of 15 May 1992.

---